

the platform is by ladder. A daring fellow of the corps of Sappers and Miners ascended the spire, prior to the erection of the scaffolding, by means of the crockets, and removed the same, weighing about a quarter of a hundred weight. — *Chelmsford Chronicle*.

IRON TRADE.—This branch of business appears now to have fully recovered from the effects of the late depression, the improvement has been gradual, and is likely to be permanent. The capital invested in it is enormous, and the effects of an improved price and demand, in the underground workmen, can scarcely be understood by those not immediately interested in the business. The quantity of pig-iron now used in this country is unprecedented, and, independent of foreign demand, exceeds the present production. Continental orders are already coming to our manufacturers; during the last month upwards of 1,300 tons of pig-iron have been exported for France, being two months earlier than was anticipated. The certainty of an increased demand for home and foreign consumption is sure to keep prices up, and the manufacturers are sanguine of realising 4s. per ton; this rate is now quoted as their price, with one or two exceptions, and the trade know perfectly well that the makers who are quoting under this, have not only none to sell, but cannot fulfil their orders for past contracts. — *Glasgow Citizen*. On Saturday last, and since the above was written, a meeting was held in Glasgow, at which it was finally arranged to give the men 1s. 6d. per day extra, making their wages now 4s. a day—an increase which is equal to 7s. 6d. or 8s. per ton on the price of iron. This, of course, will have to be added to the present prices, therefore, a further rise is confidently expected. The market was very much brisker on Monday, in consequence of the news from Scotland, and holders are unwilling to dispose of their stocks at present prices, baring great confidence in the market. The Acadia, which arrived on Wednesday last, brought extensive orders for iron, at an advance of 15s. per ton upon the limits per the Samuel Hicks, which sailed ten days before her, and it is expected that the next steamer will also bring higher rates. In tin there has also been a large business done at improved prices, and a further advance of 2s. to 3s. a box is generally expected.

THE WORKS OF THORWALDSEN.—A letter from Rome of the 25th ult. says:—"The spacious galleries of the Barberini palace, in which the numerous works of art belonging to Thorwaldsen were placed, and which were constantly open to the public, and to the study of artists, has been closed, and put under seal; in virtue of authority from the testamentary executors of the deceased sculptor. The whole of the collection will, according to his last will, be sent to the Thorwaldsen Museum, at Copenhagen; but, before their departure, in compliance with a clause in it, casts from all these works will be taken, and presented to the Kings of Württemberg and Bavaria, who honoured the great artist with their esteem and friendship."

WEIGHT OF BRITISH COINS.—The following is the legal current weight of the various silver coins:—"The crown, 5s. piece, 16 pennyweights 4-11 grains; the half-crown, 9 pennyweights 2-11 grains; the shilling, 3 pennyweights 15-11 grains; and the sixpence, 1 pennyweight 8 grains. The gold sovereign, 5 pennyweights 2 grains; the gold half-sovereign, 2 pennyweights 13 grains one-eighth."

TO OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

G.P.—On further inquiry we find, the ancient iron work, given in page 253, No. 61, was found, some years ago, in the neighbourhood of, and for some time occupied a place in the museum of an antiquary of Norwich, at the sale of whose property it was purchased by its present possessor, Mr. G. Innes, of Clarendon-terrace, Pentonville.

We have received and sent in our engraver the Tower doorway of Thornbury Church.

"A Student."—At *Wreath's*, price 2s.

"B. C. W.'s" communication relative to *Brace's* piles is received, and will appear in our next.

Contracts.

Tenders delivered for a pair of detached Cottages to be built in Barnaby-park, for R. Mait. Esq., E. A. Trimmer, Esq., Architect.

King and Co.	£1,749
Smith	1,611
Mason	1,589
T. J. Hill	1,580
Stevens	1,570
Sagden	1,547
Glenn	1,546

Mr. Glenn's tender was accepted.

Tenders delivered for furnishing four Houses at Upper Clapton, for Mr. Merriman, of Marlborough. James Edmonstone, Esq., Architect. May 28, 1844.

Chivers (Bethnal-green)	£590 18 4
Tryphor and Plak (Clapton) ..	577 17 0
Rumens ditto	825 0 0
Hayworth (Kingsland)	791 10 0

Tenders delivered for wundry alterations to be done at Mr. Lowe's, 8, Nelson-terrace, St. Nicholas-road. May 23, 1844.

Little (Kingsland-road)	£242 0
Hayworth, ditto	211 15
Kebbell (Dalston)	208 0
Smith (Waring-street)	198 0
Goulden (Dalston)	187 6

Current Prices of Metals.

May 28, 1844.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
SPELTER—Foreign ton ..	22	10	0	23	0	0
" For delivery ..	0	0	0	22	0	0
ZINC—English sheet ..	0	0	0	30	0	0
QUICKSILVER	per lb.	0	4	6		
IRON—English bar, 4c. per ton 6	5	0	0	6	10	0
" Nail rods	0	0	0	7	0	0
" Hoops	8	0	0	8	10	0
" Sheets	9	5	0	9	10	0
" Cargo in Wales ..	5	10	0	5	15	0
" Pig. No. 1, Wales ..	0	0	0	4	0	0
" No. 1, Clyde ..	3	2	6	3	3	0
" For., Swedish ..	9	15	0	10	0	0
" Russian, CAND ..				16	10	0
BEST—Swedish bar, p. ton 17	10	0	0	18	0	0
" Faggot ..	0	0	0	18	0	0
COPPER—English sheathing, per lb.	0	0	0	9	1	0
" Old	0	0	0	8	1	0
" Cakes p. ton ..	0	0	0	83	0	0
" Tin	0	0	0	82	0	0
" S. American ..	75	0	0	76	0	0
TIN—English, blocks, 4c. cwt ..	3	13	0			
" bars ..	0	0	0	3	14	6
" Foreign, Banca ..	0	0	0	3	8	0
" Straits ..	0	0	0	3	4	0
" Peruvian ..	0	0	0	3	0	0
Tin plates, No. 1C. p. box 1	9	0	0	1	12	0
" No. 1X ..	1	14	0	1	18	0
" wasters 3c. p. box less						
LEAD—Sheet melted	per ton	17	15	0		
" Shot, patent ..	0	0	0	19	15	0
" Red ..				21	10	0
" White ..				23	10	0
Pig-LEAD—English ..	0	0	0	17	0	0
" Spanish ..	0	0	0	16	10	0
" American ..	0	0	0	16	5	0

SHORT and MAHONY, Brokers,

1, Newman's-court, Cornhill.

NOTICES OF CONTRACTS.

For enlarging, straightening, and improving the course of the rivers Devon and Sme, and the Car-dyke, in the parishes of Hawton, Farndon, &c. &c., in the counties of Nottingham and Leicester, and for the erection of, building, enlarging, &c., the several bridges connected with the above works.—Specifications, &c., Mr. Talbot, Newark. June 1.

For the erection of Two Shed-Buildings, to adjoin the main building of the New Workhouse at Rye-hill, Sussex; also for the erection of extensive inclosure-fences of brick, stone, and iron palisade in front of the Workhouse and other necessary works. The Guardians, Rye Union, Workhouse Tender, June 1.

For the erecting of certain works for the improvement of Aberdeen Harbour.—Plans, &c., Mr. Abernethy, 69, Waterloo-place, Aberdeen. June 20.

COMPETITIONS.

A PREMIUM of 100 guineas will be given by the commissioners appointed to erect a lunatic asylum in the vicinity of the city of Kingston, Jamaica, to the person who shall produce the best plan, accompanied by a specification, of an asylum for the reception of the insane. The institution must accommodate 200 patients of both sexes, with the requisite number of officers and servants, and due attention must be paid in the plan to the proper classification of the patients, and the climate in which the asylum is to be erected. The plan must also show how an addition may be made for the accommodation of 100 patients more, in the event of such being required. The plans must also set forth the probable cost of the building in stone, brick, and iron. The principal portion of the building is to be allotted to paupers, but the commissioners are desirous of seeing added sufficient apartments for the accommodation of about 25 persons in better circumstances of life, and direct the attention of competitors to this arrangement. The plans must be prepared and transmitted to William Bage, Esq., &c., 1, Paper-buildings, Temple, on or before the 22nd of August next.—London, May, 1844.

The Committee of the Hardy Testimonial are desirous of receiving designs for a plain and substantial pillar, to be erected on the summit of a high and exposed hill, not far distant from the sea, at an expense of from 500l. to 750l. A premium of 100 guineas will be given to the architect whose plan shall be adopted. The designs are to be forwarded to the hon. secretary, Dorchester, on or before the 14th day of June next.

MEETINGS OF SCIENTIFIC BODIES.

To-day and during the ensuing week.

SATURDAY, JUNE 1. — *Asiatic*, 14, Grafton-street, 2 p.m.

MONDAY, 3. — *Entomological*, 17, Old Bond-street, 8 p.m.; *British Architects*, 16, Lower Grosvenor-street, 8 p.m.; *United Service Institution*, Middle Scotland-yard, 9 p.m.

TUESDAY, 4. — *Linnæan*, Soho-square, 8 p.m.; *Horticultural*, 21, Regent-street, 3 p.m.; *Civil Engineers*, 25, Great George-street, 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, 5. — *Society of Arts*, Adelphi, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, 6. — *Royal Somerset House*, 8 p.m.; *Antiquaries*, Somerset House, 8 p.m.; *Zoological*, 57, Pall Mall, 3 p.m.

FRIDAY, 7. — *Royal Institution*, Albemarle-street, 8 p.m.; *Botanical*, 20, Bedford-street, Covent Garden, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, 8. — *Royal Botanic*, Regent's-park, 4 p.m.

CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Library open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—Museum open every Tuesday from 1 till 7.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Open every week-day except Wednesday, between 10 and 2. Admission by members' tickets.

LINNEAN SOCIETY.—Library open on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, and the Museum on Wednesday and Friday, from 12 o'clock to 4 in the afternoon.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—Library and Museum are open every day from 11 till 5.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.—Museum is open every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, from 11 till 4.

UNITED SERVICE INSTITUTION.—Museum open all the year, from 11 till 5 in summer, and from 11 till 4 in winter. Admission by members' tickets.

LONDON INSTITUTION.—Lectures will be delivered every Monday and Thursday evening, at 7 o'clock, until May 6.

BOTANICAL SOCIETY.—Herbarium open every Wednesday and Friday evening, from 7 till 10 (except September).

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.—The Museum is open to visitors on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, from 12 till 4, except during the month of September, on Friday to gentlemen for studying in it; and on Saturday from 10 till 1 to gentlemen desirous of comparing specimens with those in the Museum. The Library is open to members and students of the college, and visitors having tickets of admission, daily (Sundays excepted) from the 1st of October to the 1st of April, from 10 till 4; and from the 1st of April to the 1st of September, from 10 till half-past 3.